



# The Guardian

VOLUME 40, Issue 8

August 2009

## 2009 PAC Endorsements

The Seattle Police Officers Guild has released its' first round of political endorsements for the upcoming 2009 elections. The SPOG Political Action Committee interviewed each candidate and issued it's endorsements based on who they determined would be the best advocate for law enforcement. SPOG plans to announce a second round of political endorsements following the Primary Elections in August.



**Tom Carr**  
Seattle City Attorney



**Sally Bagshaw**  
Seattle City Council Position #4



**Jessie Israel**  
Seattle City Council Position #6



**Judge Anne Ellington**  
Washington State  
Court of Appeals

### Remembering Our Fallen Heroes



Harry E.S. Williams EOW: 08-02-1931

Joselito A. Barber EOW: 08-13-2006

**Gone But Not Forgotten**

\*\*\*Turn to Page 3 for more information on the candidates\*\*\*



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## The Guardian

Official publication of the  
Seattle Police Officers' Guild

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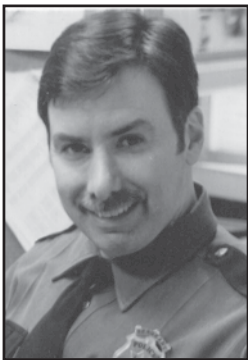
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It was July 20, 1969. I was a 10 year old boy and I was sitting in box seats on the third base side of Yankee Stadium watching the ball game. The game was interrupted and an awkward silence came over the crowd. This was of course before gigantic replay screens in center field, so you had to actually listen to the PA announcer. The Yankee PA announcer, Bob Sheppard, (who just retired this year at the age of 98)

proudly announced that the game was being halted momentarily because United States astronauts had just landed on the moon. The crowd stood and sang God Bless America and then erupted into a huge ovation. I remember it being such a proud moment and one of those moments that you knew you would remember forever. I have long since forgotten the score of the game but, thanks to Google, I learned that the Yankees beat the Washington Senators 3-2. I had also forgotten that Ted Williams was the manager of the Senators. For those who don't follow baseball, the Senators later became the Texas Rangers. If you don't know who Ted Williams was, I can't help you! Anyway, this past month commemorated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that lunar landing. This past month also saw the passing of Walter Cronkite who was the nation's anchor man for decades. Whatever the event was it always seemed that Walter Cronkite was who we were watching on the black and white television. With his passing many of the stations played various clips from his famous broadcasts. Whether it was the JFK Assassination or the moon landing, there was Cronkite informing the viewers. Watching the old clips I noticed how news reporting has changed so drastically. Back in the day, the news reports just seemed to tell the viewers the facts of what was going on. There were also things which were "off-limits." Reporters respected the personal lives of athletes, politicians, and celebrities. There did not appear to be an attempt to "slant" the news or slide any kind of personal opinions into the story. Reporters weren't possessed with tearing apart a person's reputation. I know that when Cronkite retired he gave speeches where it appeared his personal politics leaned to the left, but while he was behind the anchor desk and on the air, he never let anyone know his personal opinions. My how we have changed. Now we have conservative stations and liberal stations. Reporters and broadcasters act like they work for a political party. I guess it could be the reason that the vast majority of the public no longer gets their news from the TV news anchor or the newspapers. I think people have just gotten tired of the "spin" and would rather just have "the facts."

This leads me to something that seems to be affecting more and more officers on the department. Officers are becoming the object of public disclosure requests from so-called journalists who seem bent on digging up dirt on police. They shroud their "gotcha-journalism" under the cloak of the "public's right to know." When their public disclosure "witch hunt" doesn't show any real dirt, do they ever write a story detailing that the overwhelming majority of officers have never even been accused of wrong doing? Of course not! A story complimenting the police doesn't fit their personal anti-police bias. Any objectivity or fairness (assuming they had any to start with) is gone. The advice from SPOG is that any officer getting a public disclosure request notice should, at a minimum, request that the department show them what it is they will be releasing before it gets released. Several officers have done this and found errors. Discipline cases that were reversed and sometimes even mis-identity. You also have the individual right to assert your privacy rights. This would require getting an attorney and seeking an injunction in court. This is not something SPOG can do on your behalf as it has to come from the individual person who feels their privacy is being violated. So do not wait until one of the local tabloids publishes your name and past allegations. The only consolation at that point is that one of the papers is constantly losing subscriptions and the other two are so worthless that they have to give them away for free. Headlines today and used to wrap fish the next day.

The SPOG Political Action activities are heating up. Please see the article this month on our first round of endorsements. It is expected that we will be making other endorsements later this season. The candidates that we have endorsed have demonstrated to us that they will make public safety a priority

in all the decisions they make. Please share our endorsement ideas with relatives and friends and encourage them to vote. The August 18<sup>th</sup> primary will narrow the field in each race down to two candidates. Then the big push will start for the general election in November. We are trying to elect candidates who have "common sense" and who will be supporters of public safety. The majority of voters want the same thing! We can't let the professional protestors and the "anti-police fringe crowd" cloud the issues. We also need officers who are willing to attend candidate forums and public events with our endorsed candidates as a public show of support. We have to be off-duty and not in uniform. We will provide SPOG shirts for anyone wanting to attend. Please call the SPOG office if you are interested. Family members and retired officers are also encouraged and welcome to join us.

The department has issued a new directive requiring a mandatory "6 hour rest period" every twenty-four hours. The directive has generated many questions and SPOG issued a "Greenie" to try and address some concerns. This directive was instigated by defense attorneys who often ask for an officer's work schedule whenever the officer is involved in a high profile incident like a shooting or accident. The directive might be seen as an attempt to limit off-duty, but I believe that it will impact the department more than the handful of officers who work a lot of secondary employment. Officers who are in court or who are working mandated department events will create a situation where they need their "rest period" but low staffing levels won't allow them the required time off. Commanders will be faced with either granting them their rest period or waiving the rest rule and then just hoping that the officer doesn't go out and get involved in a critical incident during that shift. (Liability?) We already saw the first "waiving" of the rest rule right before Torchlight weekend. If we are truly concerned about an officer's safety, I'm not sure why it is okay for any officer to go without their rest period during a parade but the remainder of the year we have to conform. Standby as this unfolds and hopefully the kinks in the directive will become obvious. For all of you retired officers who remember "rest periods" as being assigned to a two-officer patrol car, all I can say is that: times have changed.

On a similar note, if you come across any policies that don't make sense, shoot me an email with the example. I will forward those examples to Chief Diaz who has assured me that he will review them. We all know of things that don't seem to make sense and when you inquire as to why we do that, you either get a blank stare or the ever-popular "because we've always done it that way." Let me hear about those policies and we'll send them up for review.

The department is also reviewing the Glock handgun with the possibility of replacing it with another make or model. A group has been assembled to test fire different weapons. The testers will rate the weapons and turn that information over to a committee who will make recommendations to the Chief. SPOG will be represented on both groups, so if you have a strong opinion on the weapon you carry, let us know and I will be sure to pass your opinions on to the weapons committee.

Finally, I was interviewed by the Boston Herald after President Obama commented on the misdemeanor arrest of a man in Massachusetts. (See the reprinted article in this issue). What they didn't include was that I said that we have all stuck our foot in our mouths from time to time. I know I have and his Vice-President seems to be a regular at that. I also mentioned that it might have been better to check with his newly appointed "drug czar" to get a police perspective before opening up a huge can of worms. Apparently it was all settled over a beer at the White House. Hey, maybe our allegations from OPA could be settled that way. The officer and the complainant sit down over a beer and discuss the situation. Don't forget to include your Guild Rep! Stay safe and enjoy the rest of the summer!



# 2009 SPOG Political Action Committee Endorsements

The Seattle Police Officers’ Guild is proud to announce their first round of endorsements for the following races:

### Seattle City Attorney: Tom Carr

Tom Carr’s proven leadership and experience is critical to keeping Seattle safe. His initiatives with the North Precinct Auto Theft Project resulted in a 60% drop in citywide auto theft. Tom has also been a leader in protecting domestic violence victims and prosecuting drunk drivers. Seattle Police Guild President, Sgt. Rich O’Neill said, “The police officers need an experienced prosecutor like Tom Carr working with them to keep Seattle safe. Tom’s opponent has no experience prosecuting criminals. This position is too important to be accomplished with on the job training.”

### Seattle City Council Position #4: Sally Bagshaw

Sally Bagshaw has dedicated her life to public service. Sally’s work in the King County Prosecutor’s Office demonstrated her ability to not only be a leader, but also to work as a member of a team. This experience will be very valuable on the city council. Seattle Police Guild President, Sgt. Rich O’Neill said, “Sally has such a wide range of knowledge on so many issues. She understands that public safety is the foundation of a livable community and we look forward to working with her.”

### Seattle City Council Position # 6: Jessie Israel

Jessie’s enthusiasm and proven track record of working with diverse groups to get things done is desperately needed on the Seattle City Council. Jessie is committed to working with law enforcement groups to strengthen public safety in all of Seattle’s neighborhoods. Seattle Police Guild President, Sgt. Rich O’Neill said, “Jessie impressed us as someone who will get things done. Her enthusiasm for public service is inspiring and she will be the breath of fresh air that the council needs.”

### Washington State Court of Appeals: Judge Anne Ellington

Judge Ellington’s experience on the bench needs to be retained. She is highly regarded as a fair judge with an impeccable record. Seattle Police Guild President, Sgt. Rich O’Neill said, “Judge Ellington has all the qualities that we want to see in a judge and her experience is invaluable to the State of Washington and the City of Seattle.”.

When you sit down to mark your primary ballot this August, please keep in mind these 4 candidates and the good they could do for law enforcement if they win the election.

Please contact SPOG with any questions or concerns.

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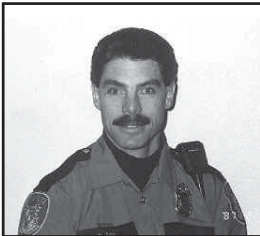
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# Chaplain’s Corner

By Chaplain John Oas

In the Book of Genesis - some 3,000 years ago - there is an incident in the life of Jacob (Genesis 30). Jacob was the grandson of Abraham. He was a really important guy in Israel’s history, however, for many years; he doubted that he had a special blessing from God.

As a child, he was favored over Esau. His mother tricked and schemed Isaac so that Jacob got the family blessing. He had hidden from Esau for more than 20 years - miles away with his Uncle Laban. But after more than twenty years, he had become rich with his wisdom to farm, raise live stock, and turn this into more and more possessions. Plus, he had a beautiful family. Still, he carried his doubt.

The time came when he left Laban (and there’s a story about that) and struck out with all he had (family and all) back to Canaan where he grew-up. His father was much older now, and Jacob wanted to see him before he died. As they were on the road, a currier brought him the message that Esau was on his way with an army of over four hundred men.

Jacob was petrified. God visited him and spoke to him that he would be alright, but his brother had much time to allow revenge grow in his heart. Late one night an angel visited him. It was assertive and raised more of Jacob fears. Then, they wrestled. They wrestled for the entire night. (Even the WWF would be impressed!) As dawn was gathering,

the angel announced that he was finished. Jacob was left with a serious limp.

When Esau rode up to surprise him...he stopped with surprise. He got out of his chariot and ran to Jacob sobbing. They embraced, and years of anguish were melted into the land. Jacob learned that the fight had shaped his blessing. He did not have to prove himself anymore. He learned that enemies can change, and we have a God who can turn life’s circumstances around. He realized that he had changed...

That’s what we gain in the trials of our life. We will never know real peace until we weather the storm and rest in the hands of the ‘true’ power

for our lives. When we come to end of self, a whole new ‘us’ emerges!

May His very best be yours,

Chaplain John K. Oas, D.D.  
Chaplaincy International  
The Seattle Police Department  
Phone Number: 206.650.9399 (24/7)  
Contact me on FACEBOOK:  
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## SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION

Did you know that the Chaplain is NOT a paid employee of the Seattle Police Department? Did you know that he receives NO MONEY or BENEFITS from the Seattle Police Department or the City of Seattle? Did you know that his ONLY COMPENSATION comes from the generous contributions by members of the Seattle Police Department?

The Seattle Police Department Chaplains Association is a legitimate non-profit organization which has a Board of Directors made up of Department volunteers. The purpose of the Chaplains Association is to serve Seattle Police Department members, both sworn and civilian. We operate totally on donations from Department members through payroll deductions.

Chaplain John Oas is the Chaplain for the Seattle Police Department. During a typical month, Chaplain Oas will have counseling contacts with Department employees and their families for career, discipline, death/illness, alcohol & substance abuse, or family problems. He is also available for and has participated in numerous emergency calls, hospital visits, weddings, baptisms and funerals.

If you do not already donate and would like to, please fill out the Payroll Deduction Authorization Form below and return it to Detective Nathan Janes, Homicide Unit. If you already donate and would like to increase your donation, likewise fill out the form below with the increased amount. We appreciate any and all donations and wish to thank our many members who contribute regularly.

A suggested TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation of \$20.00 a month, (\$10.00 a pay period) would be welcome, yet any and every donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

The Chaplaincy Board of Directors.

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# Officer of the Month

By Officer Christopher Hall, West Precinct

The SPOG Officer of the Month for July 2009 is Officer Dionne Perkins of the South Precinct, as nominated by Officer Wayne Johnson for her consistent work and specifically the way she handled a call of an injured person.

On June 3, 2009 at approximately 1930 hours, 911 received a call reporting a vehicle traveling southbound on Martin Luther King Jr. Way South, where they believed the driver had been shot in the head. 911 continued to receive multiple calls regarding this vehicle as the driver appeared injured and was traveling at a high rate of speed.

Initially it was believed the vehicle was traveling southbound away from the city, however, key questions and observations by Officer Perkins confirmed the vehicle was, in fact, traveling northbound into the Rainier Valley. Officer Perkins immediately responded to the area where the vehicle was traveling, along with several other SPD Units. At this time the vehicle had not been seen by any of the officer’s that arrived in the area, but officers continued to follow the directions of a 911 caller that was attempting to follow the vehicle.

During the time the officers were attempting to locate the vehicle, 911 received a 911 hang up call, where the operator heard what sounded like someone screaming in the background before the line was disconnected. The Communications Section was able to provide the address of 5913 Rainier Avenue South as the origin of this 911 call. Officer Perkins had just received information that the injured subject traveling in the vehicle was last seen in the area of Martin Luther King Jr.

Way South and South Orcas Street and that the vehicle may have gone eastbound on South Orcas Street. Officer Perkins started eastbound on South Orcas Street, also moving towards the 911 hang up call. Officer Perkins using her patrol instincts as a 17-year veteran, believed the 911 hang up may possibly be involved with the vehicle that was seen with the injured driver.

Officer Perkins arrived in the area of 5913 Rainier Avenue South where she could hear screaming from the inside of the apartment building. Officer Perkins immediately notified the dispatcher of her observations and requested additional units to her location. Officer Perkins observed a hysterical 9-year-old girl come out of the apartment building and motion to her that she needed help. Officer Perkins motioned to the young child to come to her and she did. The small girl began pulling Officer Perkins towards the apartment building telling her that her brother was hurt. Officer Perkins continued to update her situation using her radio. Upon arriving at the front door of the apartment building they found the door to be locked. The small girl then pulled Officer Perkins to the rear of the apartment building where Officer Perkins located the vehicle that had been traveling with the injured driver stopped in the alleyway behind the apartment building, unoccupied. Officer Perkins immediately updated this information with the dispatcher and called for a fast backup. Officer Perkins maintained control of the small girl and moved to the rear of the apartment building. At this point additional officers arrived on the

scene and they made contact with the apartment where the small girl lived, where they found the injured subject down in the doorway of the apartment. Officer Perkins called for Seattle Fire Personnel and they responded immediately to provide medical attention to the subject that was suffering from multiple stab wounds. The subject was transported to Harborview Medical Center via Seattle Fire Medic One.

Once the subject was removed from the scene, Officer Perkins remained at the scene and comforted the small girl as she was extremely upset by the sight of her brother on the floor bleeding. The small girl told Officer Perkins that she was afraid and did not want to be at the apartment. Officer Perkins continued speaking with the small girl, eventually comforting her to the point that she was no longer afraid of the incident or staying at the apartment.

Officer Johnson noted in his nomination, “I work in the same squad


with Officer Perkins and witness these types of occurrences on a daily basis. This type of police work is often overlooked and is routinely looked at as an officer just doing his or her job, however, I am convinced that based on her actions on this day, the lives of all involved were positively affected by her police professionalism. In my opinion, there are many instances where this officer could have or should have been nominated but this recent call handled by Officer Perkins prompted me to sit down and write this memorandum. Officer Perkins’ professionalism and dedication to police work deserves recognition.”

As the Officer of the Month, Officer Perkins has selected the Help the Officer Fund as the recipient of the \$250 SMCU donation.

Please remember, e-mail nominations to oom@seattlepoliceguild.org or they can be sent to me through Department mail at the West Precinct. Stay safe.



Thank You to Seattle Metropolitan Credit Union for their generous donation of \$250 to the Help the Officer Fund in the name of Officer of the Month, Officer Dionne Perkins. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!



## Timothy Leary

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# 66th ANNUAL RETIRED OFFICERS’ BANQUET

The 2009 Retired Officers’ Banquet is Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at the SPD Range Pavilion. The banquet is not just for retired officers anymore! It’s a really great evening and an opportunity for active duty officers to interact with and show their appreciation for those who served before them. There will be great food and a fun time for all, so we hope you will be able to join us!

Wednesday September 9 doors open at 6:00 PM  
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## TICKETS ARE REQUIRED FOR EVERYONE

The retired officer’s dinner is complimentary if your Retired Officers’ Association dues are current. Not sure if your dues are current? Call Nick Bulpin at 425/349-5373. Tickets are \$15 per officer if your dues are not current. Guest tickets and active officer tickets are still \$15 each.

Please order \$15 tickets via department mail (SPRA attn: Lisa) or U.S. mail (SPRA, 2517 Eastlake Ave E #101, Seattle WA 98102) with check payable to SPRA along with the names of those attending. Please feel free to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope! If you do not need to pay (for yourself or for a guest), you may order your complimentary ticket via telephone (206) 726-9095 or email Lisa at (lisar@reliefassociation.org). All tickets and nametags will be mailed to you.

Orders must be placed prior to September 1, 2009

An invitation and order form will be mailed to you in a few days.

David Duty, Vice President  
Seattle Police Relief Association

P.S. If you make a reservation and find you cannot keep it, please let us know!

# Attention Bowlers

By Mike Hori, SPD Retired

The South End Trio Bowling League will be bowling at **MAGIC LANES** in White Center, not too far from the Seattle Police Southwest Precinct. The address is 10612 15<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, Seattle, phone #206-244-5060. Bowling will start on Wednesday, Sept 16, 2009 at 4:30 PM. The season will be 28 weeks, with a 1<sup>st</sup> half and a 2<sup>nd</sup> half, then a roll off at the end of the season for the league championship on April 14, 2010.

The league is open to men and women of Law Enforcement Agencies, civilian employees affiliated with law enforcement agencies, and family members. The league starts at 4:30 PM and usually ends around 6:15 PM. The team consists of three bowlers, plus two alternates if needed. The team can be any combination of all men, all women, or both. This is a handicapped league, 90% of 200, so novice bowlers are welcomed.

There will be a league meeting on Wednesday, Sept 9, 2009 at 4:30 PM at the bowling alley, and following the meeting there will be **FREE BOWLING**. Bowlers are encouraged to show up so we can make up teams, or let us know if you have a team.

For more information, contact Michael Hori at 425-432-1973, cell 206-380-9793, or email me at: horim@comcast.net.

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# Washington First Responder Will Clinic

By Ford Clary and Jenni Frere Volk,  
Co-Chairmen for the WFRWC

On Saturday, September 12, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m., the WSBA Young Lawyers Division (WYLD) will host the Washington First Responder Will Clinic. The clinic will be held at the Starbucks Support Center in downtown Seattle. This event is being offered free of charge to Seattle Police Officers and their spouses or their Registered Domestic Partners (an appointment is required).

At the Washington Will Clinic, volunteer attorneys provide free estate planning advice and documents, such as Wills, Powers of Attorney and Healthcare Directives, to first responders who risk their lives every day protecting our local communities. Attorneys Ford Clary and Jenni Frere Volk introduced the program to Washington in 2006. To date, there have been eight clinics in Washington; approximately 400 officers and their spouses have been assisted by the Clinic. First responders are asked to fill out a thorough questionnaire before arriving at the clinic, and once there, they are given the chance to meet with a volunteer attorney for approximately an hour. The first responders will leave the clinic on September 12<sup>th</sup> with signed and executed estate planning documents in hand. The program hopes that first responders can take comfort in the fact that they go to work each day knowing that their estate plan has been thought out and is in order. Sadly, in 2007, a Washington Will Clinic client passed away after a battle with cancer. His fellow officers reported that he took some solace in knowing that his loved ones would be taken care of upon his passing. “We were all devastated to learn of the officer’s passing and we can only hope that our contribution made things a bit more comforting for the family during this difficult time,” says Jenni Frere Volk. Ford Clary adds, “It feels good to know that our program has made a difference in someone’s life.” The clinic on September 12 will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Seattle clinic in and the 9<sup>th</sup> clinic statewide. More expansion plans for 2010 are also underway. For more information or to make an appointment, please visit [www.wsba.org/willclinic](http://www.wsba.org/willclinic).

You may also contact SPD Officer Christie-Lynne Bonner for additional information ([bonnerc@seattle.gov](mailto:bonnerc@seattle.gov), 684-9263).

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Important Date

SPOG Membership Meeting

Wednesday, August 26th

at 2000 hours

Complimentary Dinner      All Members Welcome



# Legendary Lawman: Eliot Ness

## *An Untouchable Agent Against Crime*

I doubt there is a lawman alive that hasn't heard of the daring raids by Eliot Ness and his group of Untouchables, but do you know the complete story behind this 1987 film? Let's take a look back at Eliot's life and see how this legend was built.

Eliot Ness was born into a Norwegian family on April 19th, 1903. His parents were immigrants who had earned a solid middle class living. His father started a wholesale bakery business that flourished. The youngest of five children, Eliot was reportedly a remarkably well behaved boy that worked with his father and had his own job delivering papers.

Eliot was an avid reader and was said to prefer reading to playing baseball. Perhaps it was all the reading of Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes or his brother-in-law's job as an agent for the Justice Department, but Eliot became a retail credit investigator following his graduation from the University of Chicago. With degrees in business and law, rather than pursuing a career in business as his parents had anticipated, Eliot began what would become his law enforcement career. He then reenrolled in the University to take night classes in Criminology under the well-known expert, August Volmar.

In 1927, having graduated with a Master degree in Criminology, Mr. Ness joined the Treasury Department, working for the Chicago office of the Bureau of Prohibition. In an attempt to bring down Al Capone, the Federal Government began a two-pronged attack: income tax evasion and the sale of illegal liquor (the Volstead Act). Ness was chosen to head the operation under the Volstead Act, going after supply routes and breweries owned by Capone.

Seeing the wide spread corruption in the Chicago police department, Ness selected agents from the Treasury Department. His 50 initial selections were whittled down to 11 trustworthy men. If Ness was going to have any impact at all, he would need to have agents with the same drive and determination that he held. Most importantly, he would have to have men with integrity that was without question.

Eliot is quoted as having said, “I ticked off the general qualities I desired: single, no older than thirty, both the mental and physical stamina to work long hours and the courage and ability to use fist or gun and special investigative techniques. I needed a good telephone man, one who could tap a wire with speed and precision. I needed men who were excellent drivers, for much of our success would depend upon how expertly they could trail the mob’s cars and trucks... and fresh faces - from other divisions - who were not known to the Chicago mobsters.”

Raids started immediately with intelligence developed from extensive wire-taps. Unsuccessful attempts to bribe agents on behalf of Capone led to the group earning the nickname “The Untouchables”. Ness, acutely aware of public opinion, used the media to sway the masses against Capone who was, at the time, a celebrity. Accounts of assassination attempts on Ness, and the murder of one of his agents were of questionable validity.

In 1931, Capone was charged with 22 counts of tax evasion and 5,000 violations of the Volstead Act. While Ness and his Untouchables were a constant thorn in Capone's side, it was the IRS that ultimately brought Capone to justice. On October 17, 1931, Capone was sentenced to 11 years. Following his appeals, he began serving this sentence in 1932.

With the end of prohibition in 1933, Ness was assigned to southern Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee as an alcohol tax agent in the Moonshine Mountains, and in 1934, he was transferred to Cleveland. 1935 saw Ness hired on as Cleveland's city Safety Director, overseeing both the Police and Fire departments. His appointment resulted in a modernization of the fire department, putting a lid on organized crime in the area and cleaning up the corruption in the police force. At 32 years of age Ness would go from managing 34 agents to well over 2,500. He did all this as the country was running head-long into the Great Depression.

The Untouchables, the book that started Eliot Ness' rise to nationwide fame and cemented his place in the annals of law enforcement was published in 1957 as an autobiography. It was co-written by Oscar Fraley, a sports writer for United Press International. In fact Fraley wrote the manuscripts of the book from the stories Ness had told him. Ness read the proofs shortly before his death. The main portion of the book is written in first-person, anecdotal style as if Fraley had written it straight from his talk with Ness.

Ness' home life just as tumultuous as his career. Because of his immersing himself in his work, his wife Edna, filed for divorce. This would be the first of two divorces for Ness. He was married to Edna Staley from 1929 until 1938, Evaline Ness from 1939 thru 1945 and finally Elizabeth Anderson Seaver from 1946 until his death on May 16, 1957.

While Eliot Ness left behind a history of dramatic exhibitions of personal integrity, perhaps his greatest talent was his ability to manipulate the media and turn public opinion. His famous battles with Al Capone were played out in the daily newspapers as much

as they were in the streets. Both Ness and Capone used the media to garner public opinion. Capone's favorite responses to being described as a criminal were "I am just a businessman, giving the people what they want," and "All I do is satisfy a public demand." Eliot Ness knew that befriending newsmen and giving them access would help give the public another view of Capone. It must have worked; the 1957 book resulted in a TV series in the same year, a feature film in 1987 and another TV series in 1993.


In the end, Eliot Ness became famous for his performance in the battle against organized crime in Chicago in the person of Al Capone; his “legendary” status assured thanks to books, television and movies. That part of his career actually spanned four years and most certainly deserves our admiration. To stand up against such a crime figure as Al Capone and to find men who would fight the good fight, their integrity sufficient that they weren’t bought away by Capone’s dollars, was an amazing success in and of itself.

*Reprinted by permission of the author Charles Bennett. Originally posted at [www.officer.com](http://www.officer.com)*

***Charles Bennett*** was born in our Nation's Capital and grew up in the Maryland suburbs. Mr. Bennett has been working in all aspects of the publishing industry since the late 1980s primarily in the fields of commercial photography and magazine production. Moving to California in 1992 to attend college resulted in B.F.A and Masters degrees. California also supplied Mr. Bennett with his wife. The two of them are avid sports persons and participate in shooting, scuba diving, surfing, running and bicycling. As a long time hobby Mr. Bennett has studied the legends of American law enforcement which led to his writing these columns.

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# SPOG Trust Condo Updates

The SPOG Trust Maui Condo is off to a great start! As of August 3rd, 5 SPOG and SPMA members and their guests have had the chance to enjoythe condo.Currently, the condo is reserved through the end of July 2010 with SPOG and SPMA members. The next drawing will be held on August 26th at the SPOG August Membership Meeting. If you are interested in getting to enjoy your own little piece of paradise, get your drawing forms in. Here are a few comments from some of the members that have had the opportunity to enjoy the condo:

YOWZA!!! (That translates to “GREAT”)

First off, let me say how pleased I was with the Guild Staff. My family had nothing short of a great experience and the assistance provided by the Guild Staff was over the top.

The SPOG Trust Condo was first rate and the view was awesome. The staff thought of everything you would need in order to enjoy your stay. The purchase of this condo is a benefit for us all. I will no doubt use the unit in the future.

Mahalo  
Eric D. Holland #6611

.....

We couldn’t believe all the things you thought of! We wish we could come next month!!!

Pete Verhaar

.....

The condo is remarkable. It is extremely comfortable and every amenity has been thought of. I thought I would take a minute to share with you a conversation I had with several people while swimming at the condo.

One of the condo board members was talking with a few of the guests about the condo. They stated that there was a new owner in the unit, and that they were police from Seattle. They were very excited to have them as owners. I explained that I was a part of that group, and everyone there wanted to know how the police could by a condo in Maui. I explained that it was the labor union that represents the police that bought the condo as a benefit for the membership. Sitting at the pool was a school teacher, a healthcare worker and a flight attendant. They could not believe that a labor union would do something like this for their membership. They said their labor union would never do something like this for their membership. They were extremely impressed (and maybe a little jealous). Overall I had the feeling of what a lucky group we are to have this benefit.

Lt. Mike Edwards





# The Enemy Within

By Sergeant Ty Elster, SPOG Vice President

For those of you who have stock in the rumor mill industry, you won't be surprised to hear that credibility remains volatile as trading of shares continues to periodically spike followed by the customary crashing of value shortly thereafter. In short, rumors are destructive and the spreading thereof should be avoided. Unfortunately, the "best" rumors are those that have a grain of truth to them. This allows the originator of the rumor to appear to have the inside track on privileged information. Most rumors describe misconduct of one sort or another. In many professions, rumors of most misconduct can be and are ignored. However, in law enforcement, misconduct is handled far differently than in the private sector. Frequently, the mere hint of impropriety is sufficient to cause a law enforcement employer to launch an investigation into the matter, as police officers are held to a higher standard (as we should be) than civilians. As such, the stakes are far higher for cops, and makes the act of spreading rumors far more disgraceful.

Although, it is often welcome relief for the subject of a rumor to have their employer investigate baseless allegations because the ultimate outcome is having the subject's reputation restored when the rumor is proven to be false and without merit. Unfortunately, this means that the subject of the rumor must endure months of scrutiny, uncertainty and

anxiety while the matter is being investigated. Not to mention the fact that the subject of the rumor will be under orders not to speak to anyone about the allegation. All the while the rumor monger will be allowed to roam free within our ranks spreading their poison.

With this in mind, our employer has provided us with a good truth detector for many things that we hear on the rumor mill. If a rumor had any basis in fact, our employer would be very interested in the case. After all, if the subject of the rumor were actually engaged in misconduct, there would be dire consequences in the form of discipline or criminal charges. With this in mind, if you hear an outlandish rumor, one could expect to see a corresponding severe response from our employer. A lack of response from our employer should be a huge indicator as to whether the rumor is based in reality or if it's merely fantasy based on half truths and innuendo.

The Encarta English Dictionary defines the word "rumor" as: An unverified report; a generally circulated story, report, or statement without facts to confirm its truth. This definition provides us with another gauge for checking the veracity of a rumor. Your first suspicion that you are hearing information that is not based in fact is if the person who is telling you the "facts" is in a position where they

should know all the answers. If they can't answer all of your questions or if they preface their comments with disclaimers such as, "It appears that *(fill in the blank)* occurred." then you should have alarm bells going off. Secondly, try to verify the rumor. If you contact someone else who should "know" the facts and they don't know what you are talking about, you have again discovered a clue about the truth. And of course, whenever possible, go to the subject of the rumor. They are usually the last to hear what is being said about them while simultaneously often being the only person with the "whole story". Additionally, if I were the subject of a rumor, I would welcome the opportunity to answer any and all allegations as I'm sure most of us are cut from the same cloth that makes us honest, above board and driven to tell the truth.

The consequences of passing along a rumor or God forbid, you start a rumor yourself, is that you will only damage your personal reputation when the rumor is proven to be false. And once you have established your reputation as a rumor monger, you will have lost the trust and respect of your peers, possibly forever. Never forget, the only thing that you own that you will take with you to the grave is your reputation. Protect it, defend it and value it, as it is your legacy. Don't disgrace yourself and tarnish your reputation by spreading rumors!

On another note, we have entered the election season and SPOG has received unprecedented interest in obtaining our political endorsement. This is in large part due to you, our members. Your willingness to "get involved" is admirable and we will be calling upon you to join us on the campaign trail as we have several important races where we will need everyone's support. Don't forget, these are the people that determine what your pay, benefits and working conditions are and they need to hear directly from you. Remember, our strength is in our numbers. Stick together, back each



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All *Guardian* submissions are due by August 15, 2009 to [spogguardian@yahoo.com](mailto:spogguardian@yahoo.com)

**Important Date!!!!**  
**SPOG Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 26th**  
**2000 hours**  
**Complimentary Dinner      All Members Welcome**

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### Happy Anniversary

The Guardian Staff is pleased to announce the milestones achieved by the following SPOG members during the month of August 2009!



#### 30 years of Service

Sergeant Don Smith, Traffic  
Detective Steve Kilburg, Homicide  
Detective Bruce Larsen, B/T North  
Detective Bobby O'Donnell, CIS  
Officer Al Carr, Motors  
Officer John Pote, Communications

#### 25 years of Service

Sergeant Vince Guballa, East Precinct  
Detective Scott Kawahara, ABS  
Detective Mark Smithers, TCI  
Detective Bob Seavey, Retail Theft

#### 20 years of Service

Detective Michelle Hackett, Narcotics

#### 10 years of Service

Detective Eric Holland, TCI  
Detective Matt Hyra, Employment Services  
Detective Brandon James, Narcotics  
Officer Chris Anderson, North Precinct  
Officer Nick Guzley, West Precinct  
Officer James Lee, West Precinct  
Officer Frank Poblocki, West Precinct  
Officer Matt Diezsi, West Precinct  
Officer Sina Ebinger, East Precinct  
Officer Stephanie Marks, South Precinct  
Officer Michael McDonald, East Precinct  
Officer Mike Settle, South Precinct  
Officer Michele Letizia, East Precinct  
Officer Susanna Monroe, WSCJTC

# Washington's Most Wanted

## "Officer of the Month" June 2009

### Seattle Police Officer Marcus Martin

Case Information

The following story is why Seattle Police Officer Marcus Martin has been selected as WMW Officer of the Month for June 2009.

On Thursday, Feb 26, 2009 the Henderson Arms Apartments in the South-end of Seattle went up in flames. SPD Officer Marcus Martin responded and when he arrived he found the building was engulfed in smoke and flames. He immediately determined that not all of the residents were aware of the fire. Officer Martin made the decision to enter the apartment building, where he saw that the fire alarm had been taped over, rendering it useless. He ripped away the tape and was able to activate the alarm. He then ran through the building knocking on doors to alert residents of the fire and finally smoke forced him out of the building. Although some residents sustained significant injury, many more of this

mostly immigrant and limited English speaking population were able to get out to safety thanks to the heroic efforts of Officer Martin. Captain Les Liggins, who was fortunate to have been on the scene to observe Officer Martin as he moved through the different parts of the scene. Captain Liggins stated that Officer Martin moved about the crowd showing concern and compassion for the now displaced residents, but all the while making sure that all kept a safe distance from the fire. Captain Liggins went on to say that Officer Martin approached him with a look of compassion asking the Captain what more could he do. Captain Liggins also stated that Officer Martin stayed at the scene until Metro Buses arrived to move the more than seventy-five displaced residents to a shelter.

Myrle L. Carner  
WMW Police Liaison


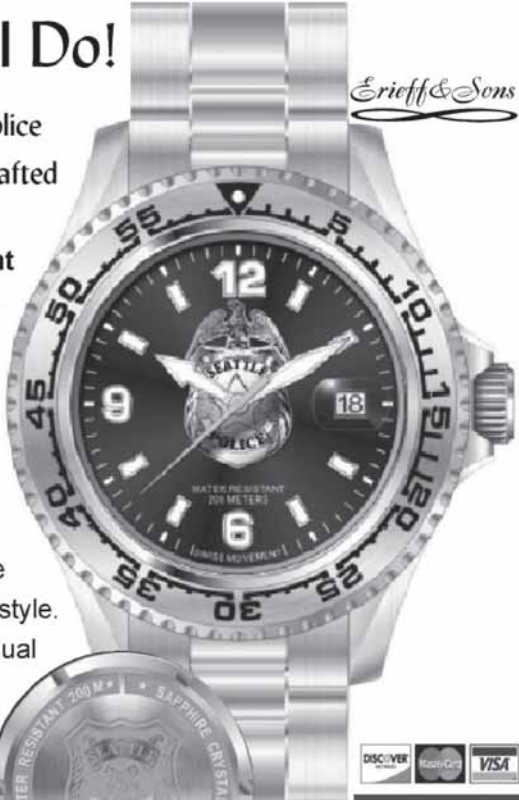

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Contact Sergeant Barbara Wilson for more details and to discuss. Telephone: (206) 251-5195, Email: [barbara.wilson@seattle.gov](mailto:barbara.wilson@seattle.gov)

The International Association of Women Police is holding its 47th Annual Training Conference in Seattle. You can play an important role in this historic event. We expect 600 female police officers from around the globe. Volunteer Today!

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# WMW “All-Star Special” Features Police Officers

Following the 2009 Major League Baseball All Star game on July 14<sup>th</sup>, Washington’s Most Wanted on Q13 FOX aired a TV special honoring police officers from Washington State who have distinguished themselves by showing outstanding dedication and commitment to the job.

Seattle Police Officer John Abraham or the Motor Unit was one of ten officers who was honored during this show. Congratulations to John for being selected as one of Washington’s Most Wanted Police All –Stars!

## In Loving Memory



Officer Joselito Barber #6897  
EOW: 08-13-2006  
Gone But Not Forgotten

# Cop Unions Rip President Obama Comments Cambridge Police ‘deeply pained’

By Laura Crimaldi and Marie Szanislo

*This article originally appeared in the July 24<sup>th</sup> edition of The Boston Herald and is re-printed with their permission.*

Police nationwide are reeling from President Obama’s televised reprimand of Cambridge cops for “acting stupidly” in the arrest of Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr.

“My response is that this department is deeply pained,” said Cambridge Police Commissioner Robert Haas yesterday. “It deeply hurts the pride of this agency.”

Local union officials representing Cambridge Sergeant James Crowley, 42, would not rule out taking their outrage over President Obama’s remarks to the picket line next month when the first family lands on Martha’s Vineyard for a vacation.

“I think it’s disgraceful,” said Stephen Killion, President of the Cambridge Police Patrol Officers Association. “He labeled the entire police department of Cambridge as stupid and it’s the wrong thing to do.”

President Obama applied the “stupid” label Wednesday during a nationally televised press conference on health care after acknowledging that he did not know all the facts.

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs attempted to soften the blow, telling reporters that his boss wasn’t calling Crowley stupid when he made the critical remark. Later, however, President Obama himself insisted he stood by his remarks.

“I have to say I am surprised by the controversy surrounding my statement, because I think it was a pretty straightforward commentary that you probably don’t need to handcuff a guy, a middle-aged man who uses a cane, who’s in his own home,” President Obama told ABC’s “Nightline” yesterday.

“I think that I have extraordinary respect for the difficulties of the job that police officers do,” President Obama said. “And my suspicion is that words were exchanged between

the police officer and Mr. Gates and that everybody should have just settled down and cooler heads should have prevailed. That’s my suspicion.”

Crowley himself said he’s disappointed President Obama inserted himself into the controversy.

“I support the President of the United States 110 percent. I think he was way off base wading into a local issue without knowing all the facts as he himself stated before he made that comment,” Crowley said on WEEI-AM yesterday.

**Seattle Police Sergeant Richard F. O’Neill, President of the Seattle Police Officers’ Guild, said Obama should have kept his comments to himself.**

**“I’m sure the President has much more important things to do than weigh in on a local issue involving a misdemeanor arrest. To me, that’s very disappointing,” said O’Neill, who heads the largest police union in the Northwest. “I just don’t think we need at this time to be fanning racial overtones and especially from the president of the United States.”**

Jerry Flynn of the New England Police Benevolent Association said law enforcement nationwide already felt slighted by President Obama because he did not attend an annual memorial service in May.

“His comments are reprehensible and completely out of character for the commander-in-chief,” Flynn said. “First of all, he doesn’t know the facts of the case. It’s clear by what he was saying that his friendship with the defendant clouded his judgment and impartiality with respect to the case.”

An International Union of Police Associations spokesman described President Obama’s comments as “premature,” but said he hopes that the remarks have little bearing on President Obama’s relationship with police.

“I hope we can take a very rational approach to this,” said IUPA spokesman Rich Roberts.

Jessica Van Sack contributed to this report.

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# Video and Memory

By Sergeant Randy Woolery, OPA-IS

Fact: Video is here and it is never going away. Fact: Things change in law enforcement as technology improves. Fact: Video has and is changing the public view of law enforcement and it is also increasing/ changing delivery of police services and accountability. Fact: Video may or may not be an accurate portrayal of a specific event.

If we all agree with what I said above then this article will make sense. If you don’t agree, please read with an open mind and then decide.

Law enforcement used to be a solitary profession where it was just you, your horse and your sidearm. Maybe you had a partner or a quickly formed posse but for the most part you were by yourself and you had to rely on yourself. Things changed.

You walked a beat with your partner or drove a two-person prowler car in the central district. There was a callbox at key locations and a light system to let you know if there was a call waiting. Once you were dispatched or on-viewed something, communication with your fellow officers was very limited. Did they even know you were on a call?

In-car, two-way radios and a limited supply of portable radios became available. I’m told they had to warm-up for 30-60 seconds (they had tubes, not transistors) before they would work so you either left the car running or you had to be able to fight for that long before your partner could call for help (I know, he should be in the fight as well and not waiting for the radio to warm up. Maybe he needs to call an ambulance or the medical examiner…better?).

Today, computers “talk” to the computers in our cars. Soon, Radio will know where you are and if you log out to something and you don’t know where you are the computer will plot your location for the dispatcher.

All of our patrol vehicles are equipped with in-car video systems. Don’t forget the holding cells cameras. Most everyone in the public today has a video or still camera built into their cell phones. Digital cameras are small and cheap and often take video. Many businesses have video surveillance systems recording 24/7. Traffic cameras are at major intersections and along the freeways. The media has high-powered cameras in helicopters. ATM machines have cameras in them that are always running. Video is everywhere!

We need to remember that video is everywhere and use it to our advantage. It isn’t going away so make it a positive tool. Be polite and

get that recorded. Be effective and efficient in your job and get that recorded. Use it to show how well you perform your job daily, while encountering all types of people on patrol. Use it to document crimes, statements, crime scenes, intoxicated drivers, irate citizens, and noise complaints. Make it work to your advantage and not against you. When a complaint comes in to OPA a search for video is conducted and it will be reviewed whenever available. If there is no video, depending on the circumstances, you might be held accountable as well (or at least asked why there isn’t any.).

Your memory, however, is not a video and the two should not be confused. The British published an excellent research study that I had the opportunity to hear about in training called, “[Guidelines on Memory and the Law, Recommendations from the Scientific Study of Human Memory.](#)” If you want a copy of this report, send me an e-mail and I will get it to you.

Below are the highlights of this study, many of which have a direct impact on us and our chosen profession:

i. **Memories are records of people’s experiences of events and are not a record of the events themselves.** In this respect, they are unlike other recording media such as videos or audio recordings, to which they should not be compared.

ii. **Memory is not only of experienced events but it is also of the knowledge of a person’s life, i.e. schools, occupations, holidays, friends, homes, achievements, failures, etc.** As a general rule memory is more likely to be accurate when it is of the knowledge of a person’s life than when it is of specific experienced events.

iii. **Remembering is a constructive process.** Memories are mental constructions that bring together different types of knowledge in an act of remembering. As a consequence, memory is prone to error and is easily influenced by the recall environment, including police interviews and cross-examination in court.

iv. **Memories for experienced events are always incomplete.** Memories are time compressed fragmentary records of experience. Any account of a memory will feature forgotten details and gaps, and this must not be taken as any sort of indicator of accuracy. Accounts of memories that do not feature forgetting and

gaps are highly unusual.

v. **Memories typically contain only a few highly specific details.** Detailed recollection of the specific time and date of experiences is normally poor, as is highly specific information such as the precise recall of spoken conversations. As a general rule, a high degree of very specific detail in a long-term memory is unusual.

vi. **Recall of a single or several highly specific details does not guarantee that a memory is accurate or even that it actually occurred.** In general, the only way to establish the truth of a memory is with independent corroborating evidence.

vii. **The content of memories arises from an individual’s comprehension of an experience, both conscious and non-conscious.** This content can be further modified and changed by subsequent recall.

viii. **People can remember events that they have not in reality experienced.** This does not necessarily entail deliberate deception. For example, an event that was imagined, was a blend of a number of different events, or that makes personal sense for some other reason, can come to be genuinely experienced as a memory, (these are often referred to as ‘confabulations’).

ix. **Memories for traumatic experiences, childhood events, interview and identification practices, memory in younger children and older adults and other vulnerable groups all have special features.** These are features that are unlikely to be commonly known by a non-expert, but about which an appropriate memory expert will be able to advise a court.

x. **A memory expert is a person who is recognized by the memory research community to be a memory researcher.** It is recommended that, in addition to current requirements, those acting as memory expert witnesses be required to submit their full curriculum vitae to the court as evidence of their expertise.

Video might show a sequence of events as they transpired but rarely does it tell what you were

thinking or knew as the events unfolded. Video often doesn’t tell what events happened immediately before or after the recorded incident. This is important when writing your statements and reports. It is very important when writing use of force statements. These facts can sometimes be assumed, correctly or incorrectly, so review your video before you write your statement… it’s your video so use it. Review your video before you come to OPA for your interview. Remember that while video has a new place in law enforcement, it does not relieve you from your memory of an event. It is ok if you don’t remember something that happened during a call. If you say you struck the suspect three times and it is clearly five times on the video, that it not a lie. Saying you were never there but video shows you were is a lie.

Your reports and statements should allow the reader five years downstream to answer very specific questions. You only have one shot to prepare this type of document so take your time. Not all reports are for criminal documentation so remember this. They might be used for your civil defense. If you can’t write this might not be the best profession for you because if they are not done right there could be a problem. Before you put fingers to keyboard, think first about what you are trying to record. Once you submit your report it will be available for a long time and there is rarely a chance to correct a mistake or omission. This is a good reason why you should always proofread your documentation and sergeants should read them before approving them.

Thanks again for your time in reading this and remember this is my personal opinion and not the opinion or recommendation of OPA or the command staff.



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# Retired News

## By Mike Germann

### NEW SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENTS

Nothing new to publish this month. It’s beginning to look like the end of this year before we see any new retirement applications.

### R.A.P. CLUB SUMMER PICNIC, BARBECUE AND BOCCE BALL TOURNAMENT

MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR:

**\*August 13, 2009 (Thursday)**

The annual R.A.P. Club summer picnic, barbecue and Bocce Ball Tournament is set. This event takes place at the Seattle Police Range/Athletic Association Picnic Shelter, starting about 11:00 a.m. or so. Bocce ball starts at about 12:00 noon. Be sure to bring something to nibble on and share with others before the barbecue, which is generally about 1:00 p.m. or thereabouts. The food will be terrific! Mrs. Magan’s crew is doing the culinary work.

Also, please bring something for the “white elephant” raffle that afternoon and \$\$\$ for raffle tickets. This event is always a highlight of the summer season and is very popular with widows of retired Seattle Police Officers.

B.Y.O.B. Other libations supplied.

Call Ron Chapman at (206) 783-1409 or Bert Richards at (425) 228-6373 for further information.

### **RETIRED SEATTLE POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION Minutes of the Monthly Meeting July 8<sup>th</sup> 2009**

President Taylor called the meeting to order at 11:40 am in the dining room of the Four Seas restaurant at 8<sup>th</sup> S. and King Street. Mike Brasfield led the Pledge of Allegiance. Taylor asked for a moment of silence for Ed Parker who passed away on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Roll call of Officers showed all to be present.

President Taylor directed everyone to the minutes of the June meeting that have been distributed and asked for any additions or corrections. Ed Turner made a motion the minutes be approved as written, seconded by John Guich.

Nick Bulpin gave the financial report and stated it would be submitted for audit.

President Taylor reported that on June 17<sup>nd</sup> the RSPOA board met in joint session with the board of the LEOFF I Coalition. The meeting was an attempt to resolve differences within the Coalition. This meeting was called after the Coalition proposed bylaw changes that would fundamentally alter the nature of the Coalition and restrict the ability of member organizations in selecting their own representatives. Unfortunately, the meeting produced no resolution to the problem.

Taylor reported on a subsequent Coalition board meeting held by telephone conference call on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. In this meeting, the Coalition passed bylaw changes that restrict member organizations from selecting their own representation without Coalition board approval. Further, the bylaw amendments granted a full vote to each of the six at-large members. Previously the at-large members shared one vote. Further there was a proposal at this meeting to further increase the number of at-large members. Taylor pointed out that at-large members are handpicked by the Coalition president and

represent no group or individual but him. The net effect of these changes is to convert the Coalition from an organization of organizations to a private club.

Taylor reported that the RSPOA board has decided to withdraw from the Coalition. While the reasons are numerous, the inability to select our own representatives to the Coalition deprives us of effective representation and is an unacceptable condition. Taylor reported that more details on this issue will be reported in the next issue of the Call Box and on the RSPOA website. (www.rsboa.homestead.com)

Taylor reported the Coalition, as it was formed, played an important role in defeating legislative bills that would have adversely affected LEOFF 1 pension benefits. The Coalition and most other LEOFF organizations including the RSPOA did help fund legal action to secure the resolution of medical benefit denials in Snohomish County and the Coalition is currently finding a similar action in Moses Lake.

President Taylor reported the State Medical Benefits Study Phase One is complete. A copy of the report is available on the RSPOA website. (http://rsboa.homestead.com/Medical\_Benefits\_Study\_Final.pdf) The study will now move on to Phase Two which will deal with smaller cities and counties inability to meet pension medical obligations. The next meeting is scheduled for September. Taylor then explained the difference between contractual benefits and granted benefits. He stated since 1923 the state has done an excellent job of managing pension monies and benefits.

John Guich reported the RAP picnic is scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Range picnic area beginning at 10:30 with a free lunch scheduled for 1:30.

There being no further business Ed Turner moved the meeting be adjourned at 12:15 and 51 people enjoyed another great lunch.

Nick Bulpin, Secretary/Treasurer

### BILLS AND CLAIMS

Those retired Seattle Police Officers (LEOFF I and pre-LEOFF Escalators) who are also members of the Seattle Police Relief and Pension fund need to send those bills and claims:

- \*for vendor payment
- \*for member reimbursement

into the Seattle Police Pension Office in a timely manner. THE SEATTLE POLICE PENSION FUND CANNOT PAY THOSE BILLS AND CLAIMS THAT THEY DON’T HAVE IN HAND. Don’t wait until year-end. That’s a very busy time what with Medicare premium reimbursements, annual reports, etc. Do it now or as they accumulate! Your Seattle Police Pension Office staff will really appreciate your help.

### C.P.I. NUMBERS TO ARRIVE IN JULY

The consumer price index (C.P.I.) numbers for June 2009 will be published in July ’09. This number for the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton area (CPI- W) as of June ’09 will ultimately be used in the calculation to determine some Seattle Police Relief and Pension Fund (Escalator) retiree pension increases, **NOT LEOFF I**, and some lawful beneficiary increases in January 2010, FOR THOSE SO ENTITLED.

Right now, the BEST GUESS IS:

\*6% across the board pension escalator increase for some S.P.O.G. retirees and some lawful beneficiaries, so entitled.

\*5% across the board pension escalator increase for some S.P.M.A. retirees and some lawful beneficiaries, so entitled.

Your Seattle Police Pension Office will publish the “in fact” numbers as soon as they are locked in. Should you have questions, contact Mike Germann at (206) 386-1289 in your Seattle Police Pension Office.

### DELIBERATIONS CONTINUE ON EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S JOB

Your Seattle Police Pension Board continues to deliberate on the selection of a new Executive Secretary to replace Mike Germann in the Seattle Police Pension Office, come year end 2009. THIS IS IMPORTANT!

Contact your member-elected Board Trustees and let them know who you want to run the pension office to safeguard and pay your benefits. Here are your contacts:

- \*Dave Grayson (Board Trustee)  
@ (360) 652-7335
- \*Ray Carroll (Board Trustee)  
@ (206) 523-5807
- \*Dan Oliver (Board Trustee)  
@ page (206) 997-5632

Have your say in this matter – NOW! Should somebody be appointed as the new Executive Secretary that you harbor some doubts about taking care of your pension and medical benefit interests and you don’t voice your opinion now, don’t complain later on.

Have your say – NOW!

The Guild actively urges its members to write articles for publication in *The Guardian*. The newspaper cannot survive without membership contributions.

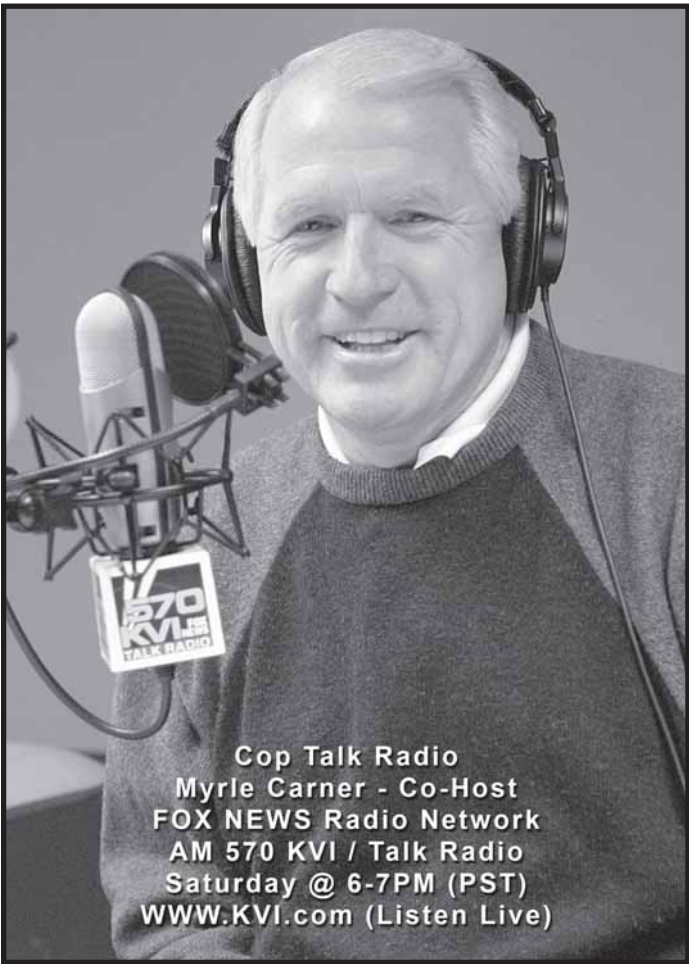
All articles and advertisements submitted for publication will be accepted subject to editorial review and changes. The editor shall retain the decision to publish, not publish, or edit an article/ advertisement. The editor’s decision to publish or not publish an article or advertisement can be appealed to the editorial board, which shall have final and binding decision making authority over the publication of the article/advertisement. Articles appearing under an author’s byline do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Seattle Police Officers’ Guild.



## August 2009 Retirees' Birthdays

Betty F. **Abbey** (29 ), Woneata **Airhart** (30 ), Robert B. **Ammerman** (17 ), Robert M. **Andersen** (9 ), Harold J. **Anderson** (22 ), Robert W. **Baumgartner** (17 ), Elizabeth **Berghmans** (1 ), Eileen L. **Beveridge** (13 ), William M. **Bierut** (31 ), William H. **Bishop** (20 ), Thomas L. **Brenton** (13 ), John D. **Burden** (26 ), Franklin G. **Butcher** (23 ), Jerry G. **Caldwell** (2 ), Richard D. **Carr** (31 ), John L. **Carson** (22 ), Robert A. **Christophersen** (13 ), Hilda L. **Dahl** (28 ), Donald G. **Daniels** (9 ), Robert A. **Davis** (29 ), Elizabeth **Day** (2 ), Michael F. **Deacy** (8 ), Margaret **Dodge** (26 ), Thelma M. **Dorris** (27 ), James W. **Dunn** (2 ), Barbara C. **Ehli** (4 ), Clark B. **Elster** (15 ), Metta B. **Farmer** (24 ), Bruce E. **Fenner** (25 ), Georgia L. **Franklin** (27 ), Harry F. **French** (25 ), Kenneth D. **Fulk** (24 ), Virginia L. **Gagnier** (17 ), Duane A. **Gehlhoff** (30 ), Allen G. **Gerdes** (4 ), Jeanette **Gray** (12 ), David W. **Grayson** (9 ), Gloria L. **Haimes** (28 ), Mary M. **Hallowell** (14 ), Sonny **Hancock** (5 ), John L. **Hanson** (24 ), Michael R. **Henning** (12 ), Jean **Holsworth** (1 ), Duane L. **Homan** (11 ), Lucille **Hughlitt** (17 ), Irene T. **Jackson** (27 ), Rodney V. **Jackson** (28 ), Odrun **Jelberg** (11 ), James W. **Johnson** (19 ), Michael G. **Johnson** (18 ), Francis R. **Jones** (5 ), Arthur R. **Kennedy** (17 ), William H. **Kramer** (18 ), Michael L. **Lambert** (21 ), Ruth A. **Lee** (23 ), A. Louise **Leidholm** (25 ), Allan R. **Lima** (5 ), Karen L. **McKenna** (20 ), Debra S. **McMullin** (13 ), Vernon L. **McRae** (17 ), Beverly **Meln** (8 ), Edvina M. **Moran** (20 ), Robert L. **Morris** (10 ), Clifford J. **Munson** (15 ), Roger D. **Myers** (1 ), John N. **Nelson** (12 ), Beverly J. **Nielson** (23 ), Ralph E. **Nilsen** (22 ), Margaret A. **O'Hare** (28 ), Carl M. **O'Leary** (15 ), Arlene E. **Olson** (24 ), Concetta **Pankey** (13 ), Joseph W. **Parks** (9 ), James L. **Philbrick** (10 ), Gregory D. **Phillips** (27 ), Jeanne **Poltrock** (5 ), Carolyn **Porter** (21 ), Gordon K. **Price** (22 ), Charles W. **Ray** (29 ), Sidney J. **Reed** (17 ), David C. **Ritter** (26 ), Victor A. **Sanders** (10 ), Richard G. **Sherwood** (11 ), Morest L. **Skaret** (2 ), H. Michael **Smith** (7 ), Jack H. **Stanton** (31 ), Mary F. **Stowe** (16 ), John P. **Sullivan** (3 ), William M. **Taylor** (22 ), Evan W. **Thomas** (21 ), Joe W. **Tolliver** (31 ), Jerrell C. **Wallace** (21 ), Paul E. **Weamire** (8 ), Dorothy P. **Wesley** (18 ), Robert C. **Whalen** (18 ), Martin L. **White** (16 ), Ralph C. **Whitney** (19 ), Albert E. **Williams** (31 ), Robert L. **Williams** (26 ), Brent E. **Wingstrand** (25 ), Leslie M. **Yeager** (31 ), Mary **Zack** (17 ), Carman J. **Zentner** (17 ),

SPOG is not responsible for any omissions or errors in the Retired Birthdays. Please take up any changes with the SPD Pension Office



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# Last Ring

**Edward “Eddie” C. Parker**, #1558, retired Seattle Police Motorcycle Officer, passed away on June 24, 2009 in Moses Lake, Washington, following a short illness. He was 78 years of age upon his death. Ed Parker was born on February 22, 1931. He was appointed a “Patrolman” of the Seattle Police Department on April 22, 1954. Thereafter, he was assigned as a “solo” officer and served just about all of his 27 year career on police motorcycles. Ed Parker retired from police service on January 14, 1981. A memorial service was held on July 3, 2009 in Soap Lake, Washington. Ed Parker’s wife, Mary, preceded him in death on March 14, 2000 at 74 years of age. She and Ed had been married for 26 years. Ed is survived by three step-children, several grandchildren and great grandchildren, who gave him much joy in his life.

-and-

**Eileen S. Bergstrom**, age 95, passed away on June 17, 2009. She was the widow and lawful beneficiary of deceased retired Seattle Police Officer John E. Bergstrom, #524, who served as a Seattle Police “Patrolman” from November 5, 1942 until his retirement on September 9, 1970, following 24 years of service. John Bergstrom passed away on September 4, 1983.

MAY THEY BOTH REST IN PEACE

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**OOM@seattlepoliceguild.org**



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# Editor’s Notes

By Detective Ron Smith, Editor



Over the years I have received inquiries from both members and member’s spouses about why Officer “X” wasn’t recognized in the proper month within our Happy Anniversary feature, or why Officer “X” was listed as having “Y” years, when part of their time wasn’t sworn. I apologize if I ever have missed anyone, or for that matter ruffling any feathers. With that said, let me tell you how this column actually comes to fruition. I first started this feature about eight years ago after seeing a similar feature in another police union newspaper. I thought this was a good idea and obtained a document listing the dates of hire for all department employees. From this list and several others I have obtained, I go through by hand each month to come up with the incremental years of service for the month. I then do my best to determine the current unit of assignment for these members. I only list those employees who are current members of SPOG, and not those who moved onto SPMA and beyond. *The Guardian* is your union publication, and we cater to SPOG members. As far as the increments of service that reflect more than just sworn time; these instances are so few that I decided at the outset not to try an delineate the difference between sworn time and Admin Spec II or PEO time, and simply recognize our members for their service to the department. I hope this clears up any questions that exist.

August 15<sup>th</sup> marks 40-years that Chaplain John Oas has served the greater Seattle area emergency services family as a chaplain. Chaplain John started out as a 25-year old chaplain volunteer at SeaTac Airport, and evolved into “our” chaplain in the Seattle Police Department in 1970’s. Today you will still find Chaplain John each of our police facilities at least once a month and you can find his schedule at <http://calendar.yahoo.com/chaplainjohn2000/>. In addition to his dedicated and loving service to the men and women of the Seattle PD, Chaplain John also serves The Port of Seattle Police Department, The City of SeaTac Fire Department, The Washington State Criminal Justice Training Center, The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and The University of Washington Police Department. Please take the time to thank Chaplain John for his service the next time you see him. If you are not currently taking part in payroll deduction to help fund the chaplaincy, please consider doing so, as the City does not pay Chaplain John. It is our responsibility as the consumers of his wisdom and love to help make sure that Chaplain John and his lovely wife Kay are taken care of! Please see the Payroll deduction form in this issue of *The Guardian*.

For those of you who like to visit our neighbors to the north in British Columbia, visit <http://www.policehotels.com> for discounts on hotels in Vancouver, Kelowna, Penticton and Vernon.

Until next month, take care of yourselves and each other. Feel free to contact me with your comments and suggestions at [spoguardian@yahoo.com](mailto:spoguardian@yahoo.com). “The jaws of power are always open to devour, and her arm is always stretched out, if possible, to destroy the freedom of thinking, speaking, and writing.”- John Adams.

# Calendar of Events

- Seattle Police Relief Association board meeting at the SPRAG Office**  
Wednesday, August 12th at 1300 hours
- SPOG Membership Meeting**  
Wednesday, August 26th at 2000 hours
- August 2010 SPOG Hawaii Condo Drawing**  
Wednesday, August 26th during the SPOG Membership Meeting

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